Policy on air fares

452. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have given full freedom to foreign airlines to revise rates;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the foreign airlines no longer need to notify or seek approval of the Director General of Civil Aviation before revising or floating new fares; and

(c) if so, the advantages of the new policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) The Government has amended the Aircraft Rules, 1937 dispensing with the requirement of filing the tariff by International Operators with the Director General of Civil Aviation for approval. The airlines are now free to apply tariffs of their choice. However, the Government reserves the right to intervene in case of any excessive or predatory tariff being charged by any operator.

(c) It is expected that lower fares will gradually emerge in the market through free play of market forces benefitting the consumers.

Defaulter companies

453. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of companies who have defaulted in their obligations to various banks and financial institutions, State-wise;

(b) the amount involved during the last three years;

(c) whether SEBI informs the investors about such companies so as to save them from loss;

(d) whether many such companies had inflated their share prices in the past and if so, what action was taken against such companies and their promoters; and

(e) the number of investors who have lost their hard-earned money in such companies and the amount thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (e) The numbers of suit filed

accounts/amount (state-wise) in which the sum to be recovered of Rs. 1 crore and above and suit filed accounts of wilful defaulters in which the sum to be recovered of Rs. 25 lac and above are given in the enclosed Statement-I and II (*See* below) respectively. However, in accordance with the practices and usages customary amongst the banks and in conformity with provisions of statutes governing the financial institutions as also the provisions of the Public Financial Institutions (obligations as to Fidelity and Secrecy) Act, 1983, the information sought cannot be divulged.

Statement-I

Suit-Filed Accounts of Rs. 1 Cr. and Above as on 31 Mar. 2004 Suit-Filed Cases by Geographic Distribution

(Rs. in Lacs)

Sl. No.	State	No. of records	Value
1	2	3	4
1.	Maharashtra	2638	1,972,217.98
2.	Delhi	1097	981,561.23
3.	Tamil Nadu	1446	763,508.04
4.	Andhra Pradesh	821	429,066.20
5.	Gujarat	646	425,753.65
6.	West Bengal	668	387,691.82
7.	Karnataka	436	327,604.50
8.	Uttar Pradesh	320	195,137.66
9.	Chandigarh	173	186,277.39
10.	Madhya Pradesh	230	160,665.03
11.	Orissa	125	69,072.00
12.	Rajasthan	114	69,070.83
13.	Kerala	206	67,806.87
14.	Punjab	191	57,990.83
15.	Haryana	79	33,341.23

1	2	3	4
16.	Bihar	55	22,544.00
17.	Assam	38	16,444.00
18.	Jharkhand	27	8,611.00
19.	Himachal Pradesh	11	6,085.07
20.	Chhattisgarh	21	5,874.00
21.	Goa	13	4,681.00
22.	Pondicherry	9	2,973.00
23.	Jammu & Kashmir	8	2,296.00
24.	Uttaranchal	3	582.99
25.	Nagaland	4	510.00
26.	Meghalaya	2	455.00
27.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	449.00
28.	Sikkim	1	329.00
29.	Daman	1	118.00
30.	Manipur	1	102.00
	TOTAL:	9,388	6,198,805.33

Statement-II

Suit-filed accounts (Willful Defaulters) of Rs. 25 lacs and above as on 31 Marc. 2004 by Geographic Distribution

(Rs. in Lacs)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	No. of records	Value
1	2	3	4
1.	Maharashtra	558	341,804.87
2.	Delhi	243	229,755.03
3.	Gujarat	186	141,557.18
4.	Tamil Nadu	395	140,727.38

1	2	3	4
5.	Andhra Pradesh	274	78,880.96
6.	West Bengal	123	62,245.15
7.	Karnataka	179	47,462.85
8.	Madhya Pradesh	97	42,476.00
9.	Uttar Pradesh	108	32,007.63
10.	Chandigarh	38	30,625.49
11.	Kerala	141	23,950.00
12.	Punjab	101	22,077.25
13.	Rajasthan	20	9,201.00
14.	Bihar	42	8,172.00
15.	Haryana	37	4,747.00
16.	Uttaranchal	14	3,018.00
17.	Jharkhand	29	2,870.00
18.	Chhattisgarh	8	2,562.00
19.	Orissa	21	2,516.00
20.	Assam	11	1,126.00
21.	Himachal Pradesh	6	1,023.00
22.	Jammu & Kashmir	4	652.00
23.	Daman	2	437.00
24.	Meghalaya	2	256.00
25.	Goa	4	235.00
26.	Pondicherry	3	229.00
27.	Nagaland	1	37.00
	TOTAL:	2,647	1,230,650.88

Listing of stock companies

454. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several listed companies shares are not traded on the bourses and if so, the reasons therefor and what efforts are being made in that respect so that shareholders may not be losers;